

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 01467 301011Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CAB-02  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-10  
NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /063 W  
-----037476 302136Z /65

R 300915Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9970  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 1467

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CGEN, PINR, SREF, VM, SN  
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE AIRCRAFT RETURNED

1. VIETNAMESE MILITARY AIRCRAFT BROUGHT HERE BY DEFECTORS ON MARCH 22 HS RETURNED TO VIETNAM. FOURTEEN VIETNAMESE CREWMEN ARRIVED IN SINGAPORE ON MORNING OF MARCH 29 ABOARD RUSSIAN-BUILT VIETNAMESE TWIN-ENGINE AIRCRAFT AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER LEFT AGAIN WITH BOTH PLANES. COMMENT AROUND TOWN IS THAT HALF OF 14 WERE WATCHING THE OTHER HALF TO BE SURE THEY DIDN'T DEFECT. IT MAY WELL BE TRUE.

2. WITH RETURN OF AIRCRAFT, INCIDENT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN RESOLVED AS PAINLESSLY AS POSSIBLE AND WITH NO SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO GOS-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS. THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE USG GOT THE TWO DEFECTORS OUT OF SINGAPORE PROBABLY ALSO MINIMIZED ANY POSSIBLE IMPACT ON US-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS.

3. ARRIVAL OF AIRCRAFT ON MARCH 22 RAISED PROBLEM FOR SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES, WHICH HAD EARLIER RECEIVED PERMISSION  
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TO USE AMBER ONE ROUTE OVER VIETNAM BEGINNING MARCH 23. CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES TELL US THAT SIA HELD OFF USING THIS ROUTE FOR FIRST TWO MARCH 23 FLIGHTS, BUT WHEN IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT SRV REACTION WAS MODERATE PROCEEDED TO FLY AMBER ONE LATER IN THE DAY.  
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT DETENTION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DEFECTORS, AIRCRAFT PILOTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SINGAP01467  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780138-1105  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SINGAPORE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978038/aaaaagia.tel  
**Line Count:** 61  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 36d318c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3364236  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIETNAMESE AIRCRAFT RETURNED  
**TAGS:** CGEN, PINR, SREF, VM, SN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/36d318c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
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